

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Dox 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.usplo.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
			·

10/712,182

11/13/2003

Merrill Brooks Smith

64243.000018

CONFIRMATION NO. 7887

OC000000012230510

27682
J. MICHAEL MARTINEZ DE ANDINO ESQ.
HUNTON & WILLIAMS
RIVERFRONT PLAZA, EAST TOWER
951 EAST BYRD ST.
RICHMOND, VA 23219-4074

Date Mailed: 03/30/2004

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Domestic Continuity and Foreign Priority

In response to your request for a corrected Filing Receipt, the Office is unable to comply with the request because:

	The priority or continuity claim has not been entered because it was not filed during the required time period. Applicant may wish to consider filing a petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority. See 37 CFR 1.55 or 1.78.
Ø	Continuity claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120 cannot be added to the Filing Receipt without the applicant supplying the relationship (continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part) in an Application Data Sheet or amendment to the first page of the specification.
	A claim for priority cannot be made based on an application filed after the application making the claim.
	Domestic benefit and foreign priority claims will not be captured in a provisional application. A provisional application is not entitled to a right of priority or to the benefit of an earlier filing date of any other application. See 35 U.S.C. § 111(b)(7) and 37 CFR 1.53(c)(4).
	A domestic continuity claim cannot be made to a foreign application and the filing receipt will only list the foreign country, application number, and filing date.
	Foreign priority will appear on the Filing Receipt in the following order: Country, Application number, Filing date.
	This application is the result of a conversion from a provisional application. Priority based on such

u	application. Therefore, the referenced application(s) cannot be claimed as domestic or foreign priority.
	To change the benefit claim of a U.S. prior-filed application, applicant must amend the first sentence of of the specification (if the benefit claim is referenced in the specification), or provide a supplemental application data sheet (ADS) (if the benefit claim was submitted in an ADS), with the desired benefit claim. Note that once a benefit claim is deleted, applicant will not be able to claim such prior-filed application again, if the above-identified application was filed on or after November 29, 2000.
	To change a foreign priority claim, applicant must submit a supplemental oath or declaration (if the priority claim is referenced in the oath or declaration), or a supplemental application data sheet (ADS) (if the priority claim was submitted in an ADS), with the desired priority claim. If a supplemental ADS is submitted, any deletions should be shown with strikeouts. Note that once a priority claim is deleted, applicant will not be able to claim such foreign application again, if the above-identified application was was filed on or after November 29, 2000.
Customer	S'ervice Center
	T

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY